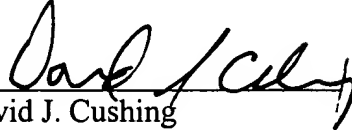


PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
Attorney Docket Q64544

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: May 22, 2001

09656362-052201

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**APPENDIX**

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

**The specification is changed as follows:**

The following section headings were inserted:

Page 1, after the title, insert the heading:

**Background of the Invention**

Page 4, before the first full paragraph beginning with "The invention proposes" insert the heading:

**Summary of the Invention**

Page 5, before the fifth paragraph, beginning with "Other characteristics" insert the heading:

**Brief Description of the Drawings**

Page 6, the first full paragraph beginning with "The invention is based" insert the following heading:

**Detailed Description of the Invention**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**The claims are amended as follows:**

4. (Amended) The system of claim 1, ~~2, or 3~~, characterized in that said band extends beyond 1620 nm, preferably beyond 1650 nm, or even more preferably beyond 1670 nm.

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5. (Amended) The system of ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, characterized in that the compensation means compensate depletion in channels over the beginning of the band.

7. (Amended) The system of ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, characterized in that the compensation means compensate enrichment of channels over the end of the band.

9. (Amended) The system of claim 7 ~~or claim 8~~, characterized in that the compensation means compensate enrichment of the channels over the end of the band by linear losses in the fiber of the transmission system.

10. (Amended) The system of claim 7, ~~8, or 9~~, characterized in that the compensation means comprise means for emitting lower powers over the end of the band.

14. (Amended) The system of claim 11, ~~12, or 13~~, characterized in that the compensation means compensate depletion in the channels over the beginning of the band.

16. (Amended) The system of claim 14 ~~or claim 15~~, characterized in that it comprises distributed amplification means over the beginning of the band.

18. (Amended) The system of claim 16 ~~or claim 17~~, characterized in that the distributed amplification means comprise rare earth amplification means.

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19. (Amended) The system of ~~any one of claims 11 to 18~~ claim 11, characterized in that the compensation means compensate enrichment of the channels over the end of the band.

**IN THE ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE:**

**The abstract is changed as follows:**

**ABSTRACT**

**AMPLIFICATION FOR VERY BROAD BAND OPTICAL FIBER TRANSMISSION  
 SYSTEMS**

**ABSTRACT**

The invention relates to a very broad band wavelength multiplexed transmission system, typically having a bandwidth greater than 150 nm or 200 nm, and in which energy transfers between channels caused by the Raman effect are compensated. The depletion of channels at shorter wavelengths is compensated by amplification which is preferably distributed, while the enrichment of channels at longer wavelengths is compensated by attenuation.

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